

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Status of Pending Claims:

Claim 1 (previously amended).

Claims 2-15 (original).

In this Amendment:

Please cancel claims 1-15.

Please add new claim 16.

16 (new). A method for treating Bayer Process liquor containing red mud comprising

(a) adding to the liquor a soluble synthetic flocculant and starch, wherein said soluble synthetic flocculant is selected from the group consisting of

- (i) homopolymers of acrylic acid,
- (ii) copolymers of acrylic acid and acrylamide,
- (iii) copolymers of acrylic acid and acrylamide modified to contain a hydroxamic acid moiety; and
- (iv) copolymers of acrylic acid and acrylamide modified to contain an acrylic acid moiety; and

(b) adding to the liquor dextran; wherein the soluble synthetic flocculant and starch are added to the liquor prior to the addition of the dextran, and wherein no additional synthetic flocculant is added to the liquor; and then

(c) removing the red mud contained in the Bayer process liquor by sedimentation, centrifugation or filtration.